

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Sept. 1, 2015



Left, Matt and Chrissy Peckham and (above), Paul and JoAnn Desrochers are the latest farmers to protect their land for agricultural use under the state's Farmland Preservation Program.

WOODSTOCK DAIRY, PLAINFIELD FRUIT FARM LATEST TO BE PROTECTED UNDER STATE FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

By Steve Jensen, Office of Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky

An award-winning dairy farm in Woodstock and a Plainfield fruit and vegetable farm will forever remain available for agricultural use after becoming the latest to enter the state's Farmland Preservation Program.

Elm Farm in Woodstock and 18th Century Purity Farm at the Hall Homestead in Plainfield bring the total number of farms protected under the program to 312, totaling more than 40,000 acres.

The 117-acre Elm Farm, which consists almost entirely of prime and statewide important farmland soils, is part of a cluster of protected farms in Woodstock that exceeds 1,200 acres.

It is the sixteenth farm preserved in town through the state's farmland preservation program, which has protected approximately 8,800 acres in Windham County.

The farm, on Dugg Hill Road, is owned and managed by sixth generation dairy farmer Matthew Peckham and his wife, Christine, who keep a herd of about 150 milking cows.

Matt's great-great-great grandfather Amos Peckham started the farm in 1885 after moving to Woodstock from Newport, Rhode Island.

"I am excited and pleased that the Peckham family decided to permanently protect their family's farm through the state's

Farmland Preservation Program and that the state of Connecticut continues its commitment to ensuring the viability of agriculture," Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said. "Woodstock has a vibrant agricultural community and townspeople supportive of production agriculture."

Matt Peckham, widely known for his environmental stewardship and activism on behalf of dairy farmers, was named Connecticut's Outstanding Young Farmer of the year for 2011.

"Elm Farm was a special place to grow up and is now a special place to raise my own children," he said. "I have always known that I would be the generation to set the land aside for agriculture."

In 2012, Elm Farm received the New England Green Pastures Award for Connecticut, given annually to recognize a family dairy farm for outstanding management practices in each of the six New England states.

The majority of the farm is considered Priority Conservation Area in the state's plan of conservation and development, and is managed in accordance with a Conservation Plan and Forest Management Plan developed through the USDA-NRCS.

Sections of Peckham Brook and Muddy Brook run through the farm, which lies within the Little River watershed. Elm

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PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	LOW	HIGH
breakers 75-80% lean	95.00	97.00
boners 80-85% lean	98.00	103.50
lean 88-90% lean	90.00	98.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
HiCh/Prm 3-4	149.00	149.50
Ch2-3	145.00	148.50
Sel1-3	140.00	144.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/Prm 3-4	n/a	n/a
Ch2-3	134.00	136.00
Sel1-2	138.50	141.50
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm3-4	n/a	n/a
Ch2-3	144.50	145.50
Sel1-2	138.50	141.50

NEW HOLLAND, PA

CALVES graded bull		
No 1 110-128 lbs	375.00	410.00
No 1 98-100 lbs	460.00	485.00
No 1 90-96 lbs	500.00	525.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3		
50-70 lbs	220.00	244.00
70-80 lbs	210.00	240.00
80-90 lbs	190.00	192.00
90-110 lbs	182.00	200.00
110-130 lbs	194.00	198.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
120-160 lbs	90.00	92.00
110-120 lbs	85.00	85.00
120-160 lbs	70.00	90.00
BUCKS		
160-200 lbs	98.00	118.00
200-300 lbs	84.00	137.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.2, by head, est.		
40-50 lbs	130.00	145.00
50-60 lbs	152.00	160.00
60-80 lbs	175.00	200.00
80-100 lbs	190.00	220.00
Nannies/Does: Sel.1, by head, est.		
80-130 lbs	190.00	210.00
130-180 lbs	195.00	230.00
Bucks/Billies: Sel.1, by head, est.		
80-100 lbs	255.00	265.00
100-150 lbs	275.00	295.00
150-250 lbs	395.00	435.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

All prices per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	48.00	53.00
	300-400 lbs	46.00	52.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	45.00	50.00
	300-400 lbs	39.00	42.00
Sows, US 1-3			
High Dress	300-500 lbs	35.00	43.00
	500-800 lbs	43.00	49.50
Low Dress	300-500 lbs	25.00	32.00
Boars	n/a		

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLESBoston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
APPLES, GINGERGOLD, BU	25.00	26.00
APPLES, HONEYCRISP, NG, BU	40.00	50.00
APPLES, PAULARED, NG, BU	22.00	24.00
APPLES, PAULARED, 96	23.00	25.00
APPLES, PAULARED, XFCY, 120	20.00	22.00
APPL, ZESTAR/MINNEWASHTA	27.00	28.00
BEANS, CRANBRY, BU/CRT	44.00	45.00
BEANS, GREEN, FLAT, BU/CRT	20.00	24.00
BEANS, GREEN, HND PKD, 1-1/9	25.00	28.00
BEANS, GREEN, BU/CRATE	15.00	20.00
BEANS, WAX, HND PKD, 1-1/9	30.00	30.00
BEETS, GOLDEN, 25 LB LOOSE	22.00	22.00
BEETS, RED, BNCHED, 12	15.00	15.00
BEETS, RED, 25 LBS	22.00	22.00
BLUEBERRIES, 12-1PT, WRAP	42.00	42.00
BROCCOLI, CARTON,	14.00	16.00
BROCCOLI, CRN CUT, 20 LBS	16.00	20.00
CABBAGE, GRN, MED/LG 50LBS	11.00	11.00
CARROTS, JUMBO, 25LB, LOOSE	11.00	12.00
CAULIFLOWER, WHITE, JKTPK, 12	16.00	16.00
CIDER, APPLE, 9-1/2 GALLON	24.00	24.00
COLLARDS, 12	11.00	15.00
CORN, 5 DOZ	12.00	15.00
CUCUMBERS, WX, MED, 1-1/9	18.00	20.00
EGGPLANT, BABY ITAL, 1/2 BU	15.00	15.00
EGGPLANT, JAP PRPLE, 1/2 BU	15.00	15.00
EGGPLANT, PRPLE, 1-1/9	10.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, WHITE, 1/2 BU	15.00	15.00
KALE, 12 COUNT	14.00	18.00
KHOLRABI, 12 BUNCHES	12.00	14.00
LEEKs, 12 BUNCHES	18.00	19.00
LETTUCE, ROMAINE, 24	17.00	18.00
LETTUCE, HYDROPONIC, 12 CT	15.00	15.00
MUSKMELONS, EACH	2.00	2.50
PARSNIPS, 18-ILB	28.00	32.00
PEACH, YELLOW, 3" MIN, 1/2 BU	25.00	25.00
PEPPERS, BANANA, 1/2 BU	15.00	15.00
PEPPERS, BELL, GRN, 1-1/9	12.00	18.00
PEPPERS, CHERRYHOTS, 1/2BU	15.00	15.00
PEPPERS, FRYERS, 1-1/9	13.00	18.00
PEPPERS, JALAPENO, 1/2 BU	14.00	15.00
PEPPERS, LONG HOTS, 1/2 BU	13.00	15.00
PEPPERS, RED, 1-1/9	20.00	20.00
POTATOES, RED, SZ A, 50LBS	20.00	20.00
POTATO, YUKNGOLD, SZA, 50LB	20.00	20.00
RHUBARB, OPEN FIELD, 20LB	36.00	36.00
SQUASH, ACORN/BTTNT, 1-1/9	14.00	20.00
SQUASH, GREY, 1/2 BU	26.00	30.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1/2 BU	14.00	20.00
SQUASH, YEL/GRN, FCY, 20LB	12.00	15.00
SWISS CHARD, 12	15.00	18.00
TOMATOES, 20 LBS	11.00	20.00
TOMATOES, 25 LBS	13.00	18.00
TOMATOES, GRAPE 12-1PT	18.00	20.00
TOMATOES, HEIRLOOM, 10LB	20.00	28.00
TOMATO, RED CHERRY, 12-1PT	15.00	18.00
TOMATOES, ROMA, 25 LBS	11.00	20.00
TOMS, YELLOWCHERRY, 12-1PT	20.00	20.00
WATERMELON, SANGRIA, EA	3.00	3.00
WATERMELON, SGRBABY, EA	2.00	3.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, August 31, 2015

Bob Calves:	LOW	HIGH
45-60 lbs.	55.00	65.00
61-75 lbs.	160.00	215.00
76-90 lbs.	390.00	395.00
91-105 lbs.	400.00	405.00
106 lbs. & up	410.00	415.00
Farm Calves	420.00	425.00
Starter Calves	40.00	52.00
Veal Calves	125.00	165.00
Open Heifers	155.00	160.00
Beef Heifers	131.00	133.00
Feeder Steers	150.00	157.50
Beef Steers	137.50	167.50
Stock Bulls	152.50	167.50
Beef Bulls	135.00	152.50
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	67.50	75.00
Feeder Pigs	1@	210.00
Sheep	115.00	145.00
Lambs	110.00	290.00
Goats each	115.00	250.00
Kid Goats	40.00	60.00
Canners	up to	97.50
Cutters	98.00	100.00
Utility Grade Cows	101.00	105.00
Rabbits each	5.00	28.00
Chickens each	4.00	25.00
Ducks each	9.00	16.00

Auction will be open Labor Day, Sept. 7**NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA**Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white
in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	2.28	2.42
LARGE	2.25	2.39
MEDIUM	1.52	1.65

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGSPer doz. Grade A brown in
carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	2.81	2.91
LARGE	2.34	2.88
MEDIUM	1.89	1.97
SMALL	1.09	1.13

PA FEEDER PIG SUMMARY

US #1-2	45-49 lb	132.00	147.00
	50-59 lb	110.00	135.00
	60-68 lb	85.00	143.00
	74 lb	81.00	85.00
	96-98 lb	76.00	81.00
	102-159 lb	70.00	81.00
US #2	22 lb	100.00	100.00
	42-46 lb	30.00	70.00
	61-70 lb	73.00	80.00
	86-103 lb	81.00	94.00

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

8-R. CT non-GMO grain and corn. Hay and straw. Pleasant View Farms. Louis. 860-803-0675.

65-R. For Sale: Parts for Grimm hay tedders. Also, rough lumber. 860-684-3458.

75-R. Hoop houses sizes from 28-35 wide X 96 long, overhead garage doors. 203-484-9708.

78-R. Case Backhoe Loader Model 580B. \$5,200.00. 860-684-3458.

79-R. Join the Winners Circle. Feed Biozyme SureChamp and ConceptAid products. Burke Ridge Farm. 860-896-0888.

80-R. Try Jug livestock waterers. Energy efficient, maintenance free. Clean, fresh water always. Burke Ridge Farm, consumer and distributor. 860-896-0888.

83-R. N.H. 316 hay baler with belt thrower. Works excellent. \$5,000.00. call 203-651-9197.

86-R. 472 New Holland haybine, 7 ft. Call 860-859-1965.

87-R. Wholesale apples and peaches at Wrights Orchard. 860-872-1665.

92-R. 2000 Dodge 2500, 2WD, needs work. \$12,000.00. 1969 F600 whole or parts with rebuilt 330 ci engine and new clutch. \$800.00 or best offer. 203-577-3184.

93. Greenhouse heaters for sale: 3 Sebring Heatmaster Classic 400,000 BTU units available for sale. Units are lightly used and have been in covered storage the past 3 years. Original use was heating 30' x 150' houses. Price for each: \$2,500.00. All three for \$6,500.00. If interested, contact Brant Smith, Maple Lane Farms, Cheshire, CT. 860-227-8786.

94-R. Stafford: \$289,900. Attractive Country Living! Updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath Cape on 3+ acres. Spacious 7 year old barn with 2 bay garage, heated office & full bath. Also includes 14x10 cabin with screened porch. Suitable for small animals, goats, sheep or contractors office. Preston: \$585,000. Former Christmas tree farm on 71+ acres, pond, gravel and frontage on 2 roads. Call Clint Charter, Wallace & Tetreault Realty, 860-558-3908.

95-R. For Sale: Purebred Black Angus cattle. 860-482-7144. Frank McCarty.

WANTED

85-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/Softwood. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

90-R. Firewood elevator about 30 foot, in good shape. 860-301-1061.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

81-R. Brush/small tree mowing with Excavator mounted mower specializing in Farmland Restoration Programs. Excavators also available. Burke Ridge. 860-559-3009.

CELEBRATING AGRICULTURE EVENT SEPT. 26

The 15th annual Celebrating Agriculture event will be held Saturday, Sept. 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Woodstock Fairgrounds on Route 169 in Woodstock. The free event attracts dozens of exhibitors and vendors and encourages education and participation in farming, forestry and all facets of agriculture, and features hay rides, food and children's entertainment. More information is available by contacting the Danielson USDA Service Center at (860) 779-0557, ext. 1 or at

www.celebratingagriculture.org.

**WOODSTOCK, PLAINFIELD FARMS LATEST TO BE
PROTECTED BY AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT**
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Farm's infrastructure includes a state-of-the-art, 1.4 million-gallon manure handling system, which keeps animal waste from entering the waterways and allows the Peckhams to use the manure and nutrients as fertilizer.

Matt Peckham said proceeds from conveying the farm's development rights to the state will be used to buy a neighboring farm, and to help build a retail dairy store at Elm Farm.

"This gives us the flexibility we need to bring the next generation of Peckhams into the dairy business while preserving the land at the same time," he said. "We are very happy with our decision."

At the 59-acre 18th Century Purity Farm in Plainfield, JoAnn Desrochers and her husband Paul offer pick-your-own apples and grow a variety of vegetables.

Their apple orchard includes several dozen heirloom varieties, some harvested from trees a century old or more. Strawberries, blueberries, peaches, plums, pears and vegetables are also grown on the farm.

The Desrochers sell most of their produce at farmers' markets in eastern Connecticut, including in Mystic, Coventry, Ledyard and Stonington, where Paul is the market master.

"Preserving this very productive farm is an important piece of the state's efforts to sustain the growing success of Connecticut's agricultural community," Commissioner Revczky said.

Formerly known as Westview Orchards, the farm has been in JoAnn Desrochers' family since the 1830s.

JoAnn Desrochers' grandparents, Ernest Buell and Henrietta Hall, started growing apples in 1918, as well as running a dairy and raising livestock.

Many of the 1918 trees are still productive, including one McIntosh nicknamed "Grandfather Mac" that is still producing despite having an almost hollow trunk that only bears bark on one side.

"This is the best McIntosh you'll ever taste," JoAnn Desrochers said as she bit into one just picked off the tree.

Other heirloom trees on the farm are four Rhode Island Greening variety. They are believed to have been planted in the 1860s, and descended from the original Greening tree said to have sprouted outside a tavern in Newport, R.I., when someone tossed a seed in the dirt.

The farm contains 32 acres of prime and statewide important farmland soil, which JoAnn Desrochers said is virtually rock-free and "goes down forever."

The property, located at 154 Plainfield Pike Road, (Route 14A), was not farmed for about a decade before the Desrochers restored it for active agricultural use in 2008.

The farm abuts Pachaug State Forest and features a natural spring, an artesian well and a small pond. Buildings include the colonial-style Hall Homestead, built in 1800 and now being restored by the Desrochers, as well as two barns, a silo, a garage and a chicken coop.

It is the third Plainfield farm preserved under the state program, totaling about 123 acres. The Molodich and Frink farms were preserved in 1989 and 1991, respectively.

The Desrochers say they decided to convey the farm's development rights to the state in order to protect it from potential commercial development.

"What happens to this land after we're gone has been on our minds forever," Paul said. "Knowing that it will always be here as a farm, it's like a big burden has been lifted."



Clockwise from above left: Matthew Peckham's great-grandfather Clayton Peckham; an aerial view of Elm Farm; one of the farm's 150 milking cows; a photo of JoAnn Desrochers showing a heifer in 1966 at the University of Connecticut sits atop a framed photo of her as a young girl on the front steps of the Hall Homestead she is now renovating with her husband, Paul.



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